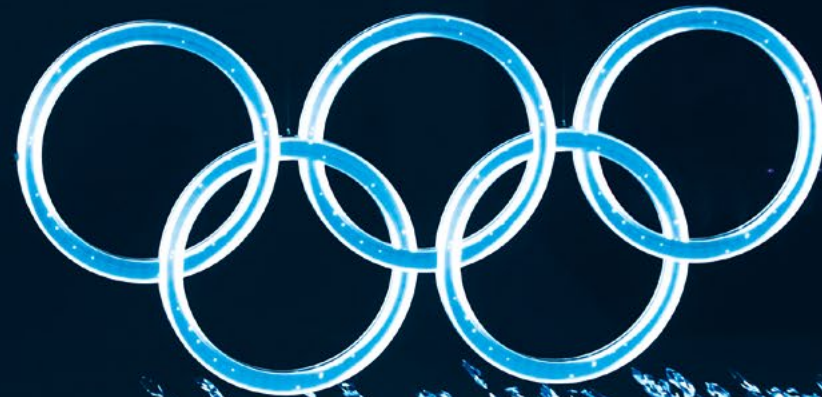


# *Annual Review* 2021-2022

*Drama, animation and dynamism were all prominent features of the Opening Ceremony of the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games.*

*Front cover: World Curling Federation photographer Alina Pavlyuchik captured a dramatic curling-related display at the spectacular Opening Ceremony of the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games.*



# Contents

President's Message	1
Board & Staff	2
Operations	3
Hall of Fame	4
World Wheelchair Championship 2021	5
Pacific-Asia Curling Championships 2021	6
European Curling Championships 2021	8
Competitions & Development	10
Americas Challenge 2021	11
World Qualification Event 2022	11
Beijing 2022 Olympic & Paralympic Winter Games	12
Pre-Olympic Qualification Event	13
Olympic Qualification Event	13
Mixed Doubles	14
Men	15
Women	16
Wheelchair	17
World Women's Curling Championship 2022	18
World Men's Curling Championship 2022	20
World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2022	22
World Senior Curling Championships 2022	24
World Wheelchair Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2022	25
World Junior Curling Championships 2022	26
Broadcast & Media	28
Marketing & Sponsorship	29
Fiscal	30
World Rankings	32
Event Calendar	33
Thank you to the officials	34
End of an Era	35
Sponsors	36

# President's Message

**With a total of 32 different championships over 17 events completed, as well as a revitalised calendar of development activities, it would be fair to describe the 2021-2022 season as action-packed.**

Thanks to the effort and professionalism of our athletes, staff, officials and volunteers, we successfully overcame hurdles presented by the pandemic. It's to your credit that we are now in a place where I can say our sport has recovered well considering the new challenges.

While there have been many memorable competitions this season – one major landmark was our first-ever World Wheelchair Mixed Doubles Championship. A clear stand-out for me was being in the Beijing Ice Cube, the venue for our Olympic and Paralympic events.

Throughout February and March, the sporting world's focus was on the Games. Throughout these Games, the Ice Cube – and it's curling action – was the place to be. It is no exaggeration to say that our sport now enjoys a cherished place at the heart of Olympic and Paralympic activities. To be working with some 4,000 volunteers at these Games, while enjoying the highest-yet viewing figures around the globe, curling's future at the highest level seems to be secure.

Now, I have to reflect that this has been my final year as President of the Federation. I am content – and humbled – to be able to say that, thanks to the teamwork of everyone involved, I firmly believe that I will hand on the Presidency with our sport in a much better and more cherished position than when I took over. Our excellent staff has increased significantly over the years, and we have a growing team of talented and enthusiastic professionals on board, with each individual contributing in their own unique way. I thank them sincerely for their work.

Many examples of what has happened this season provide evidence of the type of progress we have been making. Despite the challenges of COVID, our financial position is sound. We have seen sporting achievement coming from different countries and this can only be good for our universality. I'm thinking of Italy's Olympic and world medal performances as well as Australia's historic Olympic mixed



doubles appearance. Also, the progress being made by some of our new Member Associations such as India and Kenya and the opening of the new facility in Sao Paulo, Brazil are all significant.

My last championship as President was the 2022 World Junior Championships in Sweden, in May. As it had been throughout the season, I was given a wonderful reception by the crowd there (crowds again, at last!) which was truly humbling. When you watch these young athletes play, I think we can safely say curling's future is looking good.

Our young curlers who performed so well on the world stage will be following in the footsteps of many great ambassadors before them. This year, we lost one of curling's great ambassadors, former world champion, Thomas Ulsrud of Norway. Throughout his career Thomas was the personification of many of the aspects that are great about our sport, and how we will miss him.

I hope you enjoy this Annual Review and I wish nothing but the very best to my successor, as well as continued success and development to the World Curling Federation and the curling family.

# Board & Staff

## Board



**Kate Caithness CBE**

President, Scotland,  
elected to 2022



**Bent Ramsfjell**

Vice-President Europe: Norway,  
elected to 2023



**Graham Prouse**

Vice-President Americas: Canada,  
elected to 2025



**Hugh Millikin**

Vice-President Pacific-Asia:  
Australia, elected to 2024



**Cathrine Lindahl**

Board Director: Sweden,  
elected to 2024



**Toyo Ogawa**

Board Director: Japan,  
elected to 2023



**Beau Welling**

Board Director: United States,  
elected to 2022



**Robin Niven**

Board Director: Scotland,  
elected to 2025

## Staff

**Colin Grahamslaw**

Secretary General

**Scott Arnold**

Head of Development

**Eva Roethlisberger**

Head of Competitions

**Laura Mutch**

Competitions and Development Officer

**Jiri Snitil**

Competitions and Development Officer

**Karri Willms**

Competitions and Development Officer

**Christopher Hamilton**

Head of Media

**Mariann Bardocz-Bencsik**

Media Officer

**Emily Dwyer**

Media Officer

**Richard Harding**

Head of Broadcast

**Sylvie Aubrit**

Distribution, Booking and Servicing Manager

**Belinda Bantle-Carboni**

WCTV Production Manager

**Liz Munro**

Office Manager

**Gill Amatt**

Administrator

**Susan Keith**

Anti-Doping Officer

**Rhona Howie**

Equipment and Logistics Officer

**Ashley Melville**

IT Officer

**Saskia Mueller-Gastell**

Projects Officer

**Alan Chalmers**

Head of Finance (from April 2022)

**Karen Gourley**

Accountant (from April 2022)

**Thelma Black**

Finance Controller (until April 2022)

# Operations

## Key facts:

Curling's global reach/  
impressions on social media

# 2.29 billion

## Staffing and office

**After adapting to a hybrid work environment, the World Curling Federation office in Perth, Scotland is now re-opened with local staff have returning to working onsite.**

Thelma Black, Finance Controller, left the Federation in April. The Federation moved quickly to fill the vacancy, with Alan Chalmers joining as Head of Finance, initially on a part time basis, moving to full time from 1 August 2022. He is joined in a new finance team by Karen Gourlay, who takes on the role of Accountant.

Rhona Howie has now also moved onto the full-time payroll, recognising the ever-growing work supporting the equipment logistics for events.

The Federation has also worked with the UK Government Homes for Ukraine scheme to provide accommodation in the flat within the office to two of our friends from the Ukrainian Curling Federation.

## Integrity

**The World Curling Federation continues to work with partners to monitor for irregular betting patterns associated with the Federation's major events.**

At the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games, curling was the fourth-most bet upon sporting discipline (source: Betfair), with cross-country skiing, ice hockey, biathlon, curling and nordic combined making up 90% of the betting turnover.

Matches between Great Britain and Sweden attracted particularly high levels of betting. However, no irregular betting patterns in the Olympics or in any of the other monitored events (all the Federation's broadcast events) were detected.

## Match-fixing

**The World Curling Federation is now working with the International Olympic Committee and Curling Canada to ensure training is in place for all those participating in Curling Canada's new event sponsored by a betting company.**

## Work of the Commissions

**As in other aspects of the Federation's activities, the specialist Commissions are recovering from the pandemic-related challenges they have faced, with each gradually moving from on-line activity to a more normal 'active' way of working. Their efforts through these challenges are appreciated, as are their contributions to the ongoing health of the sport.**

The Athlete Commission welcomed new faces with Nolan Thiessen, Dave Murdoch, Kim Forge and Patrick MacDonald standing down at the end of their terms of office to be replaced by Tyler George, Benoit Schwarz, Harri Lill and Rune Anderson.

The European Zonal Commission met in person for the first time in a couple of years during the European Curling Championships and the Governance Commission continued to deal with the issues relating to the expulsion of the Polish Curling Association, reviewing the Federation's policy documents and conducting a survey of governance structures.

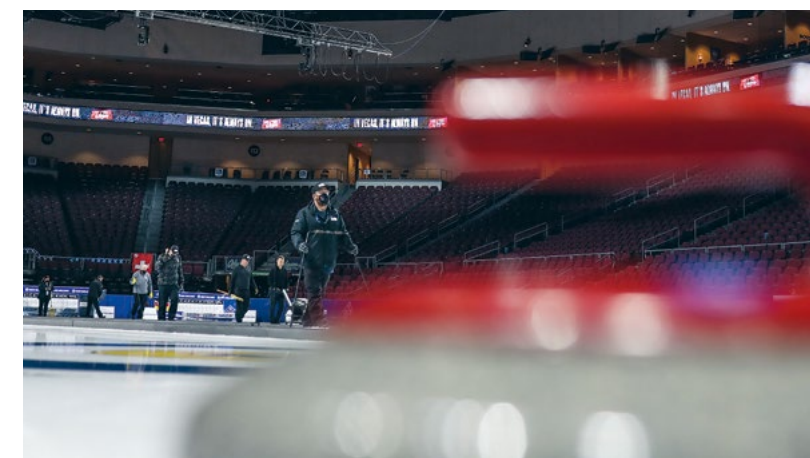
The Technical Commission and the Competition and Rules Commission met on a regular basis to continue their work. Meanwhile, the new Finance Commission met for the first time during the Open Meetings in Geneva.

Detailed presentations on the work of the commissions throughout the year can be found on the World Curling Federation website by searching for Congress 2022.

## Anti-Doping

**Prior to the Beijing 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, the World Curling Federation publicised the World Anti-Doping Agency's Code. In addition, more general anti-doping education activity was carried out, including work on developing a new anti-doping education plan. Other mailings and publicity opportunities have also been highlighted.**

The anti-doping programme itself saw 79 "In Competition" tests carried out and 46 "Out of Competition" tests, with zero Adverse Analytical Findings reported. One test was classified as an "Atypical result", but this case was found to be as a result of an administration error and no further action was deemed necessary. A total of six Therapeutic Use Exceptions were authorised.



# Hall of Fame

The World Curling Federation is pleased to have five new inductees into the World Curling Hall of Fame for 2022.

**The five inductees are: the remaining three members of Canada's Team Schmirler – Jan Betker, Joan McCusker and Marcia Gudereit – who join their skip, Sandra Schmirler, after her posthumous induction in 2009; Canada's three-time world champion, Ian Tetley; and New Zealand's Peter Becker.**

World Curling Federation Kate Caithness said, "I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to our World Curling Hall of Fame 2022 inductees. Their contribution to our sport both on the ice and behind the scenes to develop curling cannot be underestimated."

## Athlete: Team Schmirler (Canada)

**Canada's Team Schmirler – skipped by Sandra Schmirler with teammates Jan Betker, Joan McCusker and Marcia Gudereit – won three world championships in the 1990's.**

They won their first world championship in 1993 in Geneva, Switzerland. They then defended their title in 1994 in Oberstdorf, Germany. Their third world title came in 1997 in Bern, Switzerland when they defeated Norway's Dordi Nordby in the Gold Medal final.

Team Schmirler then made history by winning the first ever women's Olympic gold medals at the Nagano 1998 Olympic Winter Games. They would finish the Olympic Games with an 8-1 win-loss record, defeating Denmark in the Gold Medal final.

The team were inducted into the Canadian Curling Hall of Fame in 1999.

"Team Schmirler were our first ever women's Olympic champions as well as multiple world champions. Ian Tetley winning three world titles with three different teams is a fantastic achievement. Finally, the Becker family is synonymous with curling in New Zealand largely due to the remarkable work of Peter Becker throughout the years.

"All of our 2022 inductees are worthy recipients of the Freytag Award, which is the highest honour we can bestow in our sport."

## Athlete: Ian Tetley (Canada)

**Canada's Ian Tetley won three world championships with three different teams. His first title came as the second of Team Hackner in 1985 in Glasgow, Scotland.**

Tetley joined Team Werenich, also as a second, and won his second world title in Västerås, Sweden in 1990.

Tetley's third world title came in 1998 as the second player of Team Middaugh in Kamloops, Canada when they defeated Sweden's Peja Lindholm in the Gold Medal final.

Tetley secured the gold medals in every world championship he competed and compiled a 27-6 win-loss record throughout his international career.

Tetley was inducted into Canadian Curling Hall of Fame in 1999.

## Builder: Peter Becker (New Zealand)

**Peter Becker has been involved in every aspect of curling in New Zealand throughout his career.**

Becker skipped the first national men's team from New Zealand to compete at the Pacific-Asia Curling Championships in Sagamiyama, Japan in 1991 and would go on to represent New Zealand at these championships six times, with the latest being in 2018 as an alternate.

Becker has also represented New Zealand on the world stage nine times at the World Senior Curling Championships.

He has acted as a curling coach, manager, organiser, and team co-selector for a range of competitions, including the Olympic Winter Games, women's and men's national, junior sides. He was also one of the main drivers in taking a New Zealand team to the Youth Olympic Games.

He was the Secretary of the New Zealand Curling Association from 1995 until 2009 and was also their representative to the World Curling Federation and New Zealand Olympic Committee.

Becker was also a key figure in the development of the Naseby Indoor Curling Rink which opened in 2005 and was the first dedicated curling facility in the Southern Hemisphere.





# Kuntai World Wheelchair Curling Championship 2021

Beijing, China: 23-30 October

## MEDALLISTS

### China

Wang Haitao (skip)  
Chen Jianxin (third)  
Zhang Mingliang (second)  
Yan Zhuo (lead)  
Sun Yulong (alternate)  
Yue Qingshuang (coach)

### Sweden

Viljo Petersson-Dahl (skip)  
Ronny Persson (third)  
Mats-Ola Engborg (second)  
Kristina Ulander (lead)  
Sabina Johansson (alternate)  
Alison Kreviazuk (coach)

### RCF

Konstantin Kurokhtin (skip)  
Andrei Meshcheriakov (third)  
Vitaly Danilov (second)  
Daria Shchukina (lead)  
Olga Beliak (alternate)  
Anton Batugin (coach)

**Altogether 12 teams contested the Kuntai World Wheelchair Championship 2021 title, which acted as a test event for Beijing's National Aquatic Centre, renamed as the Ice Cube for the curling competitions of the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games.**

The 12 teams were: Canada, China, Italy, Korea, Latvia, Norway, defending champions RCF, Scotland, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland and United States.

At the end of the 11-game round robin, China had a clear lead, to qualify for the semi-finals in first place. Three teams shared second place and in the head-to-head record, RCF ranked second with two wins among them, to move directly to the semi-final. Sweden were third and United States fourth. These two teams went on to play qualification games against fifth-placed Canada and sixth-placed Scotland.

United States beat Canada, by 6-4, in their qualification games to move onto a semi-final against China. Sweden were 10-0 winners over Scotland, to face RCF in the other semi-final.

In the semi-finals, China beat United States, by 8-5, and Sweden were 12-3 winners over RCF.

In the bronze medal game between RCF and United States, the teams were level at the break at 2-2. Scores of two points in the fifth and seventh ends, followed by a steal of one in the eighth, were enough to give RCF a 7-4 win.

The gold medal final between China and Sweden saw China take an early lead of 2-0 into the break, but Sweden recovered in the second half of the game, taking a 3-2 lead into the eighth end, thanks to successive single-point steals in the sixth and seventh ends. China then scored one point in the eighth end, to tie the game at 3-3 and force an extra end. China forced a steal of two points in that end, to win by 5-3, and claim the world crown.

Norway's Ole Fredrik Syversen was presented with the World Curling Federation's Wheelchair Sportsmanship Award, which was voted for by his fellow competitors.

Also during this championship, World Curling Federation President, Kate Caithness was presented with the International Paralympic Committee 2021 International Women's Day Recognition Award.





PACIFIC-ASIA CURLING  
CHAMPIONSHIPS 2021  
ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN

## MEDALLISTS

### Women

#### ● Japan

Sayaka Yoshimura (skip)  
Kaho Onodera (third)  
Anna Ohmiya (second)  
Yumie Funayama (lead)  
Masatsugu Odaka (coach)

#### ● Korea

Kim Eun-Jung (skip)  
Kim Kyeong-Ae (third)  
Kim ChoHi (second)  
Kim Seon-Yeong (lead)  
Kim Yeong-Mi (alternate)  
Lim Myung-Sup (coach)

#### ● Kazakhstan

Angelina Ebauyer (skip)  
Sitora Alliyarova (third)  
Tilsimay Alliyarova (second)  
Regina Ebauyer (lead)  
Ayazhan Zhumabek (alternate)  
Erkki Lill (coach)

### Men

#### ● Korea

Kim Chang-Min (skip)  
Kim Soo-Hyuk (third)  
Jeon Ik Jae (second)  
Kim Hak Kyun (lead)  
Yoon So Min (coach)

#### ● Japan

Yusuke Morozumi (skip)  
Masaki Iwai (third)  
Ryotaro Shukuya (second)  
Kosuke Morozumi (lead)

#### ● Chinese Taipei

Ting-Li Lin (skip)  
Nelson Wang (third)  
Luis Yin Liu (second)  
Kai-Wen Cheng (lead)  
Victor Lee (alternate)

# Pacific-Asia Curling Championships 2021

Almaty, Kazakhstan: 6-13 November

**The final Pacific-Asia Curling Championships were held in the Almaty Arena in Kazakhstan, the second time that Kazakhstan has played host to the event.**

(Along with the Americas Challenge, the Pacific Asia Championships have now been superseded in World Championship qualification by the new Pan Continental Curling Championships, which will debut in the upcoming 2022-2023 season. The World Qualification Event also now becomes redundant).

Following a late withdrawal by Nigeria, caused by visa difficulties, four women's and seven men's teams took part.

**The four women's teams represented:** Hong Kong, Japan, Kazakhstan and Korea.

**The seven men's teams were:** Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

## Women's competition

With only four teams involved, the women's play-off format saw the double round-robin leaders proceed directly to the final, while the second and third teams would contest the sole semi-final. At the conclusion of the double round-robin, Japan and Korea had the same win/loss record and had beaten each other once. Between the two, Japan had the better cumulative Draw Shot Challenge score and therefore claimed first place on the rankings and the direct final place. Second-placed Korea then faced third-placed Kazakhstan in the semi-final. Korea won by 10-2, to face Japan again in the final, while Kazakhstan took bronze, their nation's first-ever international medal.

In a tense tenth end of the gold medal final, Japan skip Sayaka Yoshimura made two perfect draws to the button to win, by 6-5.



Both Japan and Korea qualified directly for the BKT Tires & OK Tire World Women's Curling Championship 2022 in Prince George, Canada, while Kazakhstan's bronze finish earned them a spot in the line-up of the World Qualification Event. Fourth-placed Hong Kong also earned a place at the World Qualification Event.



## Men's competition

In the men's event, Japan were undefeated in the round-robin, to rank first, while Korea were in a clear second place. There was a three-way tie for third place, and with only two semi-final slots available, Kazakhstan and Chinese Taipei progressed to the play-off stage – due to their better Draw Shot Challenge results – over Hong Kong.

In the semi-finals, Japan beat Chinese Taipei, by 8-3, while Korea were 7-4 winners over Kazakhstan. Chinese Taipei then beat Kazakhstan by 9-8 with an extra end single-point steal to claim their nation's first-ever international championship medal.

Korea dominated the gold medal final against Japan, winning by 9-5 in just eight ends. This win not only gave Korea gold, it also secured their spot at the LGT World Men's Curling Championship 2022. Japan and Chinese Taipei both qualified for the World Qualification Event.





Key facts:

**First**  
international  
medals for Kazakhstan and Chinese Taipei





## MEDALLISTS

### Women

#### ● Scotland

Eve Muirhead (skip)  
Victoria Wright (third)  
Jennifer Dadds (second)  
Hailey Duff (lead)  
Milli Smith (alternate)  
Kristian Lindstroem (coach)

#### ● Sweden

Anna Hasselborg (skip)  
Sara McManus (third)  
Agnes Knochenhauer (second)  
Sofia Mabergs (lead)  
Johanna Heldin (alternate)  
Wayne Middaugh (coach)

#### ● Germany

Daniela Jentsch (skip)  
Emira Abbes (third)  
Mia Hoehne (second)  
Analena Jentsch (lead)  
Klara-Hermine Fomm (alternate)  
Holger Hoehne (coach)

### Men

#### ● Scotland

Bruce Mouat (skip)  
Grant Hardie (third)  
Bobby Lammie (second)  
Hammy McMillan (lead)  
Ross Whyte (alternate)  
Alan Hannah (coach)

#### ● Sweden

Niklas Edin (skip)  
Oskar Eriksson (third)  
Rasmus Wranaa (second)  
Christoffer Sundgren (lead)  
Daniel Magnusson (alternate)  
Fredrik Lindberg (coach)

#### ● Italy

Joel Retornaz (skip)  
Amos Mosaner (third)  
Sebastiano Arman (second)  
Simone Gonin (lead)  
Mattia Giovanella (alternate)  
Claudio Pescia (coach)

# Le Gruyère AOP European Curling Championships 2021

Lillehammer, Norway: 20-27 November

**The road to the Le Gruyère AOP European Championships 2021 started in September in Geneva, Switzerland, when five women's teams and ten men's teams contested the European C-Division.**

From that contest, Lithuania, Slovenia and Austria women qualified for the B-Division, while Slovenia, Belgium and Slovakia men also progressed.

These qualifiers meant that 26 national Member Associations were represented in total.

The ten A-Division women's teams: Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Italy, Russia, Scotland, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey.

The ten B-Division women's teams: Austria, England, Finland, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain.

The ten A-Division men's teams: Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Scotland, Sweden and Switzerland.

The 16 B-Division men's teams were divided into two Groups:

**Group A:** Austria, Bulgaria, England, France, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey, and Wales.

**Group B:** Belgium, Belarus, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia, Spain.

## Women's competition

After round-robin play, Scotland's women topped the rankings, to play fourth-placed Germany in the semi-finals, while Sweden faced Russia. Scotland then beat Germany, by 7-4, in the semi-final to face defending champions Sweden – 5-4 winners over Russia – in the other semi-final.

In the bronze medal game, Germany came from behind against Russia, to steal two in the tenth end for a 9-6 win. In the gold medal final, Scotland skip Eve Muirhead played a gentle hit and stay to score two points for the 7-3 victory and win the title. This was a third European crown for Muirhead, and her eleventh European medal overall.

In the B-Division, Latvia and Norway advanced to the A-Division next season, while Czech Republic and Estonia were relegated to the B-Division.

## Men's competition

In the men's event, Scotland went through the round robin undefeated and faced Norway in the semi-finals. The other semi-final was between Sweden and Italy. Scotland beat Norway, by 9-3, in eight ends to set up a gold medal game against defending champions Sweden, who had a 6-3 victory over Italy.

In the bronze game, Italy beat Norway by 10-4, making this Italy's third medal in their history.

In the gold medal final, Scotland had successive steals of two in the fourth and fifth ends for a 6-2 lead. Sweden never recovered from this and the Scots went on to win by 8-5. This win completed a unique double – with Scotland's women and men claiming gold at the same event for the first time in the championships' 46-year history.

Russia and Turkey men got promoted to the A-Division, while Netherlands and Finland were relegated to next year's B-Division.





# Competitions

**World Curling competitions finally returned with a bang in season 2021-2022, with the Federation sanctioning a total of 32 completed championships over 17 events – these numbers exclude events cancelled due to COVID-19.**

Looking back, Eeva Roethlisberger, the Federation's Head of Competitions, simply said, "We got through it," adding, "I attended quite a few events this season, and we only finished at the end of May, so it was hard."

She continued, "Our challenge was just to get through it all, while following all the changing COVID rules and testing regimes, hoping there would be no positives. For me personally, a big challenge was all the especially late draw changes – I think I had to do every draw at least one extra time."

However, Roethlisberger is quick to point out the benefits of all this effort, "I personally feel that the athletes were mainly glad to be back playing. Whatever hurdles we had to face – and often it was

not like a normal event – the athletes were just so glad to be back out and competing. For me, despite all the challenges, it was really nice to see how most people were cooperating and supporting us."

On the downside she highlighted, "It wasn't nice to see empty stadiums for so long, so it was great when we finally had people in the stands again at the end of the season."

Looking to the future she said, "I'm looking forward to the Pan Continental Curling Championships, I think it will become a really good event, with the same esteem and importance as the European Championships." That it will now supersede a number of qualification and pre-qualification events is an added bonus.

Rules of Competition are a major part of Roethlisberger's remit and in this arena, she said, "It looks like we're only going with minor rule changes this year. It's mainly things that have been missing in the rulebook or other items that need to be cleaned up." However, she does confirm plans to continue the trialling of the no-tic-shot rule, saying "we need more evidence before we can make a final decision."



# Development



**Like all areas of the Federation, the Development Team continues to adapt to challenges caused by the pandemic. Despite the many obstacles faced this season, Scott Arnold, Head of Development, focuses on the progress that has been made.**

He said, "The World Curling Academy is the big thing for us now. Despite the pandemic, we have over 2,500 registrants in the various programmes and we're adding new programmes all the time. For example, we've added a wheelchair curling course funded by the International Paralympic Committee. Curling Canada was our partner in developing this programme which was greatly appreciated."

While much of the Federation's recent development work has been virtual, Arnold is now pleased to report that more and more in-person activity is returning, "We're now able to do in-person training of educators. That will let us develop the workforce, which in turn, will let us move onto the next stage. People who have taken our online courses can soon get their assessments done leading to their certification in their desired discipline."

Arnold also highlighted specific projects. For instance, he points out developments in China, as a legacy of the Olympic Winter Games in Beijing, "We've established a Memorandum of Understanding involving the Olympic venue, the Chinese Curling Association and the World Curling Federation to run courses there. The Olympic



venue will become a training centre for the World Curling Academy. After the Games, the venue saw over 2,000 people a day coming to try curling. There is a real public desire to curl and we need to help any way we can."

The World Curling Federation has also been able to establish a new World Curling Youth Camp targeting 2024 Youth Olympic Games-aged athletes, in Lillehammer, Norway. This has been done in cooperation with the Olympic Solidarity Programme of the International Olympic Committee, with the support of the Lillehammer Olympic Legacy Sports Centre and the Norwegian Curling Association. Altogether, athletes and coaches from eight Member Associations attended, including, for the first time, Mongolia and Kenya.

One area for development lies with the 18-25 age group and Arnold has now become the Technical Committee Chair of Curling with FISU, the International University Sports Federation. He explained, "This is an age-group that we are losing, so this is a big thing for us, we need to try to build upon our partnership with FISU. In this area, as in others, we need to think out of the box a bit more and help our Member Associations understand the importance of keeping junior aged athletes in the sport."

*After the Games, the venue saw over 2,000 people a day coming to try curling...*

# Americas Challenge 2021

Lacombe, Canada: 29-31 October

**The Americas Challenge took place for the last time this season, featuring men's teams from Brazil, Canada and Mexico.**

The Americas Zone has two guaranteed berths at world championships. However, if a world championship is held within the zone, one of those places is taken by the host. With Las Vegas being the venue for this season's LGT World Men's Curling Championship, Brazil, Canada and Mexico competed for the final place.

Canada, skipped by Brendan Bottcher, had four wins in the double round-robin to secure Canada's place in the world championship line-up. Meanwhile, Brazil, skipped by Marcelo de Mello, defeated Mexico, skipped by Jesus Barajas, for their first two wins in the history of this event.

There was no challenge for the women's position at the BKT Tires & OK Tire World Women's Championship.

Like the Pacific-Asia Curling Championships, the Americas Challenge will be superseded as a world championship qualification event by the new Pan Continental Curling Championships.



# World Qualification Event 2022

Lohja, Finland: 17-22 January

**The World Qualification Event 2022 was staged at the Kisakallio Sports Institute in Lohja, Finland. This was the final chance for teams to qualify for both the BKT Tires & OK Tire World Women's Curling Championship 2022 in Prince George, Canada and the LGT World Men's Curling Championship 2022 in Las Vegas, United States.**

Seven women's and men's teams took part, with two places at each world championship available.

**The seven women's teams were:**

**Hosts:** Finland

**Europe:** Czech Republic, Denmark, Latvia, and Norway

**Pacific-Asia:** Hong Kong

**Americas:** Brazil

**The seven men's teams were:**

**Hosts:** Finland

**Europe:** Netherlands, Russia, Spain, and Turkey

**Pacific-Asia:** Japan and Chinese Taipei

(Both Brazil men and Kazakhstan women qualified for this event but were unable to attend due to travel complications.)

In the women's event, Norway finished first in round robin to face second-placed Denmark in the first qualification game. The Danes won this, by 7-6, to take the first available place in the world championship line-up. Norway then faced third-placed Latvia for the second available place and won, by 8-6, to qualify.

In the men's event, Russia topped the round-robin rankings and beat second-placed Netherlands, by 6-3, in the first qualification game. Netherlands then beat third-placed Finland, by 9-4, to become the second qualifiers.

(Following the World Curling Federation ruling that excluded the Russian Curling Federation from international competition, Finland were offered - and accepted - the available place in the LGT World Men's Curling Championship line-up).





# *Beijing 2022 Olympic & Paralympic Winter Games*





# Pre-Olympic Qualification Event 2021

Erzurum, Turkey: 5-15 October

The Pre-Olympic Qualification Event featured 16 mixed doubles teams, ten women's teams and 17 men's teams, all competing for the last remaining places in December's Olympic Qualification Event, in Leeuwarden, Netherlands.

The mixed doubles teams were:

**Group A:** Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Portugal, and Slovakia

**Group B:** Brazil, Kazakhstan, Nigeria, Slovenia, and Turkey

**Group C:** Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Mexico, and Chinese Taipei

The top three teams from each group progressed to the play-off stage, with the first-ranked teams in each group progressing directly to one of three qualification finals. The second-ranked teams from each group faced the third-ranked teams from one of the other groups, with the winners progressing to the qualification finals.

The winners of the three qualification finals qualified for the Olympic Qualification Event mixed doubles competition. Those three qualifiers were Denmark, Latvia and Turkey.

The women's teams were:

**Group A:** Spain, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia and Slovenia

**Group B:** Austria, Brazil, Norway, Slovakia and Turkey

The top two teams from each group qualified for the play-offs, in which the group winners – Latvia and Slovakia – played each other in the first qualification final. Latvia won that by 9-7 to qualify their Member Association for the women's Olympic Qualification Event.



The second-placed teams from each group also played each other, with Turkey beating Hungary by 6-5. The Turks then went on to play Slovakia and won by 12-3 to earn the last place in the Olympic Qualification Event.

The 17 men's teams were:

**Group A:** Brazil, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Chinese Taipei and Turkey

**Group B:** Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, Hungary, Nigeria and Slovenia

**Group C:** Belgium, Spain, Estonia, Latvia, Romania and Slovakia

These teams played a single round robin, with the top two teams from each group qualifying for the play-off stage.

A merged group ranking for positions one to six in the play-offs was then determined, with the first and second-ranked teams – Spain and Finland – progressing to the qualification finals. While the remaining four teams progressed to the semi-finals (3v6 and 4v5).

Czech Republic defeated Spain, by 7-6, in their qualification final, while Finland beat Turkey, by 10-9, in the other, meaning that Czech Republic and Finland earned places in the men's Olympic Qualification Event.



# Olympic Qualification Event 2021

Leeuwarden, Netherlands: 5-18 December

The Olympic Qualification Event for all three Olympic disciplines – mixed doubles, women's and men's team competitions – were staged in Leeuwarden, in the north of the Netherlands.

This event determined the final teams that would complete the fields in the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games.

14 mixed doubles teams competed for the two final places in this discipline:

**Group A:** Australia, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Russia, Spain and Turkey

**Group B:** Estonia, Finland, Japan, Korea, Latvia, New Zealand and United States

Of these, Denmark, Latvia and Turkey qualified from the Pre-Olympic Qualification Event.

After round-robin play, the Group winners – Australia and United States – moved directly to the play-offs, while the second and third teams played in qualification games. These saw Korea beat Hungary, by 7-5, while Russia were 10-5 winners over Finland.

In the qualification games, Australia came from behind to beat Korea, by 6-5, and become their nation's first curling Olympians, while United States were 6-4 winners over Russia to take the final Olympic slot.

Nine women's and nine men's teams also took part, with three Olympic slots available in each discipline.

**The women's teams were:** Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Latvia, Scotland (who would compete as Great Britain at the Olympic Games), and Turkey.

At the end of the round-robin, Scotland, Korea and Japan all shared the same win/loss record. Scotland finished in first place, due to their superior draw shot challenge,



to qualify directly for Beijing. Third-placed Japan then beat Korea, by 8-5, to take the second available position. The third qualifiers were decided when Japan beat fourth-placed Latvia, by 8-5.

**The men's teams were:** Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Netherlands and Norway.

Norway went through the round-robin undefeated to top the rankings and take the direct qualification place. Second-ranked Italy then beat third-placed Czech Republic, by 6-5, to take the second available slot. Fourth-placed Denmark then were 8-5 winners over the Czechs to seal the third and final qualification slot.

*Three Olympic slots were available in each discipline*





# Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games Mixed Doubles

Beijing, China: 2-8 February

## MEDALLISTS

- **Italy**  
Stefania Constantini (female)  
Amos Mosaner (male)  
Violetta Caldart (coach)
- **Norway**  
Kristin Skaslien (female)  
Magnus Nedregotten (male)  
Thomas Loevold (coach)
- **Sweden**  
Almida de Val (female)  
Oskar Eriksson (male)  
Sebastian Kraupp (coach)

## Key facts:



Australia & Czech Republic compete in curling at Olympic Winter Games for the 1st time

Players from eight of the ten mixed doubles curling teams were the first to compete at the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games when the first session of round robin got underway on Wednesday 2 February, a full 48 hours before the Olympic Opening Ceremony.

This was the second appearance for mixed doubles at the Olympic Games and the ten teams taking part were: Australia, Canada, hosts China, Czech Republic, Great Britain, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and United States.

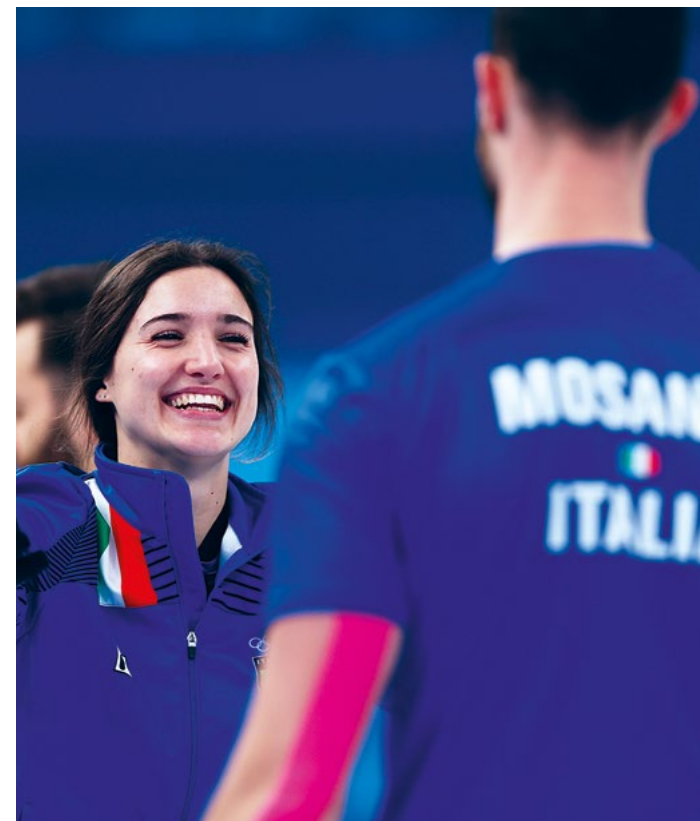
Italy were the first team to qualify for the semi-finals and they were followed by Great Britain, Norway and Sweden.

In the semi-finals, Norway came from behind to beat Great Britain, by 6-5, while Italy continued their unbeaten form with an 8-1 victory over Sweden.

Great Britain and Sweden went on to play for bronze medals. Sweden took an early 4-1 lead in this game and thanks to steals in the next three ends, went on to win, by 9-3, in just six ends.

Norway then faced Italy in the gold medal final, where Stefania Constantini and Amos Mosaner became Italy's first curling Olympic champions when they beat Norway, by 8-5.

The Norwegians took an early lead in this game, scoring two in the first end, but Italy levelled, then, with a steal of three in the fourth end, went into the break holding a 6-2 lead. Constantini finished off her team's historic win with a double take-out in the eighth end to complete their 11-game programme undefeated.





## Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games

# Men

Beijing, China: 9-19 February

**The men's team event got underway on the evening of Wednesday 9 February.**

For Norway's third player Torger Nergard, this was a sixth Games appearance, making him curling's most experienced Olympian.

With one line-up change, United States were represented by the defending Olympic champions, and their skip John Shuster carried the American flag at the Opening Ceremony. Canada's Brad Gushue and Mark Nichols both won Olympic gold in 2006. Sweden's team, skipped by world champion Niklas Edin, won silver at the PyeongChang 2018 Olympic Winter Games, while Switzerland, led by Peter de Cruz, took bronze then.

**The ten teams that took part in the men's event were:**

- **Qualified as hosts:** China
- **Qualified directly from World Men's Curling Championship:** Canada, Great Britain, Russian Olympic Committee (ROC), Sweden, Switzerland and United States
- **Qualified from Olympic Qualification Event:** Denmark, Italy and Norway

Sweden led the way to semi-final when they beat ROC, by 7-5, for a sixth successive victory. They were joined by Great Britain, Canada and United States in the play-offs.

In the semi-finals, Sweden went on to beat Canada, by 5-3, while Great Britain defeated United States, by 8-4. This meant that Great Britain and Sweden would compete for gold and Canada would take on United States in the bronze medal game.

Canada started the bronze medal game with hammer and used it to score two points in the first end with a hit-and-stay by skip Brad Gushue. A steal of two in the ninth end gave Canada an 8-5 lead and they then ran United States out of stones in the tenth, to finish off their bronze medal victory.

In the gold medal game, Sweden beat Great Britain by 5-4 in the first men's Olympic final to go to an extra end.

Sweden held a 3-2 advantage at the break, then Britain levelled the game at 3-3, with a single steal in the seventh end. Eventually the game was tied again, at 4-4, after the tenth end. The Swedes had the final stone in the extra end, when Britain's attempted double take-out just missed its second stone, resulting in a 5-4 victory for Sweden.



## MEDALLISTS

● **Sweden**  
Niklas Edin (skip)  
Oskar Eriksson (third)  
Rasmus Wranå (second)  
Christoffer Sundgren (lead)  
Daniel Magnusson (alternate)  
Fredrik Lindberg (coach)

● **Great Britain**  
Bruce Mouat (skip)  
Grant Hardie (third)  
Bobby Lammie (second)  
Hammy McMillan (lead)  
Ross Whyte (alternate)  
Alan Hannah (coach)

● **Canada**  
Brad Gushue (skip)  
Mark Nichols (third)  
Brett Gallant (second)  
Geoff Walker (lead)  
Marc Kennedy (alternate)  
Jules Owchar (coach)



# Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games Women

Beijing, China: 10-20 February

## MEDALLISTS

- Great Britain**  
 Eve Muirhead (skip)  
 Victoria Wright (third)  
 Jennifer Dadds (second)  
 Hailey Duff (lead)  
 Mili Smith (alternate)  
 Kristian Lindstrom (coach)
- Japan**  
 Satsuki Fujisawa (skip)  
 Chinami Yoshida (third)  
 Yumi Suzuki (second)  
 Yurika Yoshida (lead)  
 Ishizaki Kotomi (alternate)  
 J.D. Lind (coach)
- Sweden**  
 Anna Hasselborg (skip)  
 Sara McManus (third)  
 Agnes Knochenhauer (second)  
 Sofia Mabergs (lead)  
 Johanna Heldin (alternate)  
 Wayne Middaugh (coach)

With the mixed doubles event completed and the medals distributed, curling's focus in Beijing turned to the women's and men's team competitions. The first session of women's play took place on the morning of Thursday 10 February.

Among the women's teams taking part, Sweden was represented by the defending Olympic champions, as all three 2018 medallist teams – Korea and Japan, as well as Sweden – returned. With two changes in their line-up, Canada were represented by the 2014 Olympic champions, skipped by Jennifer Jones.

Earlier at the Opening Ceremony, Denmark's Madeleine Dupont and Great Britain's Eve Muirhead had been given the honour of carrying their national flags.

The ten teams that took part in the women's event were:

- **Qualified as hosts:** China
- **Qualified directly from the World Women's Curling Championship:** Canada, Denmark, Russian Olympic Committee (ROC), Sweden, Switzerland and United States

- **Qualified from the Olympic Qualification Event:** Great Britain, Japan and Korea

Reigning world champions Switzerland beat Korea, by 8-4, in the tenth round-robin session, making them the first women's team to qualify for the semi-finals. They were joined later by Sweden, Great Britain and Japan.

In the semi-final between reigning Olympic champions Sweden and Great Britain, the Swedes opened with a score of four points in the first end. By the ninth, Sweden still held an 8-7 lead when an angle take-out gave Britain four points and the lead for the first time in the game, at 11-8. Sweden then scored three points in the tenth end to tie the game at 11-11 and force an extra end. In that end, the Swedes came up light on their final draw, giving Britain one point and a 12-11 win without their skip Eve Muirhead having to play her final stone.

In the other semi-final, Japan took a 5-2 lead over Switzerland into the break and sealed their 8-6 win with a draw for one point in the tenth end.

In the bronze medal game, Sweden scored two points in the third end to take a 3-1 lead that they were never to lose, going on to win, by 9-7.

Both Great Britain and Japan had reached the Olympic Games by finishing among the top three teams in the Olympic Qualification Event, held in Leeuwarden, Netherlands in December 2021.

In the final, Great Britain opened the scoring with two and then went on to take a 4-1 lead into the fifth-end break. Britain then scored four points in the seventh end to take an 8-2 lead. They never looked back after this and went on to win by 10-3 after nine ends.



### Key facts:

# 781 million

hours of curling watched during Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games



## Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games

# Wheelchair

Beijing, China: 5-12 March

**The Paralympic Winter Games wheelchair curling competition took place in the Ice Cube – Beijing’s National Aquatics Centre – with 11 teams. The field was reduced from the original 12 teams because of the decision by the International Paralympic Committee Governing Board to ban the Russian Paralympic Committee, whose team were set to compete as Neutral Paralympic Athletes.**

The remaining 11 teams were – reigning Paralympic champions China, Canada, Estonia, Great Britain, Korea, Latvia, Norway, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland and United States. China qualified as host nation, while the teams with the most points cumulated from their performance at the 2019, 2020 and 2021 world championships completed the field.

After seventeen sessions of round-robin play, the four semi-finalists emerged. They were top-ranked China, who played fourth-placed Canada and second-placed Slovakia who played third-ranked Sweden. Slovakia, Sweden, and Canada all shared the same won seven lost 3 record but results among them determined their final rankings.

In the semi-finals, China beat Canada by 9-5 while Sweden were 6-4 winners over Slovakia. Canada then played Slovakia for bronze medals and won by 8-3, helped largely by a score of four points in the eighth end. This result repeated Canada’s bronze medal performance from the 2018 Paralympic Winter Games, with three of their players – skip Mark Ideson, Ina Forrest and Dennis Thiessen – involved in both.

China then faced Sweden in the gold medal final – a re-match of the Kuntai World Wheelchair Curling Championship 2021 final that took place at the same venue at the start of the season.

While Sweden took a 2-1 lead into the break, the game turned in the fifth end when China scored four for a 5-2 lead. China then scored a further three points in the seventh end and this 8-3 lead was enough to persuade Sweden to concede the game. This victory meant a second Paralympic title for skip Wang Haitao and third player Chen Jianxin, while the other team members claimed their first gold medals.

### Key facts:



**China**  
defend  
wheelchair  
curling  
Paralympic  
title



## MEDALLISTS

### ● China

Wang Haitao (skip)  
Chen Jianxin (third)  
Zhang Mingliang (second)  
Yan Zhuo (lead)  
Sun Yulong (alternate)  
Qingshuang Yue (coach)

### ● Sweden

Viljo Pettersson-Dahl (skip)  
Ronny Persson (third)  
Mats-Ola Engborg (second)  
Kristina Ulander (first)  
Sabina Johansson (alternate)  
Alison Kreviazuk (coach)

### ● Canada

Jon Thurston (fourth)  
Ina Forrest (third)  
Dennis Thiessen (second)  
Mark Ideson (first and skip)  
Collinda Joseph (alternate)  
Mick Lizmore (coach)



# BKT Tires & OK Tire World Women's Curling Championship 2022

Prince George, Canada: 19-27 March

## MEDALLISTS

● **Switzerland**  
Alina Paetz (fourth)  
Silvana Tirinzoni (third and skip)  
Esther Neuenschwander (second)  
Melanie Barbezat (lead)  
Carole Howald (alternate)  
Pierre Charette (coach)

● **Korea**  
Kim EunJung (skip)  
Kim KyeongAe (third)  
Kim ChoHi (second)  
Kim SeonYeong (lead)  
Kim YeongMi (alternate)  
Lim Myung Sup (coach)

● **Canada**  
Kerri Einarson (skip)  
Val Sweeting (third)  
Shannon Birchard (second)  
Briane Meilleur (lead)  
Krysten Karwacki (alternate)  
Reid Carruthers (coach)

**The BKT Tires & OK Tire World Women's Curling Championship 2022 took place in the CN Centre in Prince George, the largest city in northern British Columbia, Canada.**

Prince George was originally scheduled to host this event in March 2020, but it was cancelled at the 11th hour.

This was the 43rd world women's championship to be staged and 13 teams represented their national Member Associations at this event.

The teams qualified through five different routes for this Championship:

**Host:** Canada

**From the Pacific-Asia Curling Championships 2021 (in qualification order):** Japan and Korea

**From the Le Gruyère AOP European Curling Championships 2021 (in qualification order):** Scotland, Sweden, Germany, Switzerland, Italy and Turkey

**From the Americas Zone:** United States

**From the World Qualification Event 2022 (in qualification order):** Denmark and Norway

**From World Rankings:** Czech Republic

With the removal of the Russian Curling Federation teams from world championships after the Federation adopted an emergency regulation, the newly vacated spot in the line-up was offered to Latvia, the third-place finisher from the World Qualification Event 2022 held in Lohja, Finland. As they were unable to accept this offer, Finland were then offered the position as fourth-place finishers at the World Qualification Event 2022, but were also unable to accept.

It was then determined that the three teams ranked highest in the World Rankings, who had not yet qualified for the championship, would be offered the place, with the understanding that the highest-ranked side would have the first refusal on securing the vacant position.

From this process, Czech Republic completed the championship line-up.

As the competition began, Scotland were struck by COVID and played their first two games with three team members on the ice. They lost both. Further positive test results forced their complete withdrawal from the event. Later, Japan returned a number of positive COVID results and forfeited their last round-robin game.

At the end of the round robin, undefeated leaders Switzerland and second-placed Korea moved directly to the semi-finals. In the qualification games, third-placed Canada beat sixth-ranked Denmark, by 9-8, while fourth-placed Sweden beat fifth-ranked United States, by 8-6.

Switzerland then defeated Sweden, by 7-5, in their semi-final, while Korea beat Canada, by 9-6, thanks to stolen points in the ninth and tenth ends. The bronze medal game went to an extra end, but eventually Canada beat Sweden, by 8-7.





In the gold medal final between Switzerland and Korea, the teams were tied at 6-6 after nine ends. In a tense tenth end, Switzerland's fourth player Alina Paetz had a straightforward double take-out to score one and win, by 7-6. This was a third successive world title for this Swiss team, who completed their 14-game programme undefeated. For both fourth player Alina Paetz and alternate Carole Howald, it is a fifth world title in all.

To add to her accolades, Alina Paetz was announced as the winner of the Frances Brodie Award, for the second year in succession. The award recipient is selected by the curlers participating in the event, to honour the curler who best exemplifies the traditional curling values of skill, honesty, fair play, friendship and sportsmanship.



**Key facts:**

Switzerland women win  
**3rd**  
 successive  
 World Title





# LGT World Men's Curling Championship 2022

Las Vegas, United States: 2-10 April

## MEDALLISTS

### Sweden

Niklas Edin (skip)  
Oskar Eriksson (third)  
Rasmus Wranaa (second)  
Christoffer Sundgren (lead)  
Daniel Magnusson (alternate)  
Fredrik Lindberg (coach)

### Canada

Brad Gushue (skip)  
Mark Nichols (third)  
Brett Gallant (second)  
Geoff Walker (lead)  
E.J. Harnden (alternate)  
Jules Owchar (coach)

### Italy

Joel Retornaz (skip)  
Amos Mosaner (third)  
Sebastiano Arman (second)  
Simone Gonin (lead)  
Mattia Giovannella (alternate)  
Claudio Pescia (coach)

**The LGT World Men's Curling Championship 2022 was staged in Las Vegas, United States. This was the second time that the Orleans Arena had hosted this championship, with the last occasion being in 2018.**

13 of the top men's teams represented their national Member Associations at this event and qualified through five different routes:

**Host:** United States

**From the Pacific-Asia Curling Championships 2021:** Korea

**From the Le Gruyère AOP European Curling Championships 2021 (in qualification order):** Scotland, Sweden, Italy, Norway, Switzerland, Denmark, Czech Republic and Germany

**From the Americas Challenge 2021:** Canada

**From the World Qualification Event 2022 (in qualification order):** Netherlands, Finland

With the removal of the Russian Curling Federation teams from world championships after the Federation adopted an emergency regulation, the newly vacated spot in the line-up was offered to Finland, the third-place finisher from the World Qualification Event 2022 held in Lohja, Finland.

Following 20 sessions of round-robin play, Canada emerged at the top of the rankings, to go directly to the semi-finals, as did second-ranked Sweden.

Third-placed Italy then beat Switzerland, sixth-placed on the rankings, by 10-4, in one qualification game to proceed to the semi-finals. In the other qualification game, fifth-placed United States were 6-4 winners over fourth-ranked Scotland, to complete the semi-final line-up.

In the semi-finals, defending champions Sweden beat Italy, by 8-4, while Canada were 8-5 winners over United States. This left Italy and United States to face each other for bronze medals. In this game, Italy set the tone from the first end when they opened the scoring with four points. They then scored six points in the seventh end, on the way to an eventual 13-4 win – making this bronze medal Italy's best-ever world championship performance.

The gold medal final between Canada and Sweden was tied at 6-6 as the teams played the tenth end. Eventually in the tenth, a Canadian attempted draw did not curl enough, giving Sweden a score of two without them having to play their last stone, to win by 8-6.

This was a fourth successive world title for this Swedish team and a sixth world title for skip Niklas Edin and third player Oskar Eriksson. Sweden also became the first men's team to win Olympic and world titles in the same year.

During the closing ceremony, Italy lead player Simone Gonin was presented with the Collie Campbell Memorial Award. The award recipient is selected by their fellow competitors to honour the curler who best exemplifies the traditional curling values of skill, honesty, fair play, friendship and sportsmanship.



## Key facts:

  
Italy men win  
**1st** ever  
world bronze  
medals





**Key facts:**



Sweden's Niklas Edin and Oskar Eriksson win

**6<sup>th</sup>**  
world  
men's title



# World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2022

Geneva, Switzerland: 23-30 April

## MEDALLISTS

- **Scotland**  
Eve Muirhead (female)  
Bobby Lammie (male)  
Greg Drummond (coach)
- **Switzerland**  
Alina Paetz (female)  
Sven Michel (male)  
Stefan Meienberg (coach)
- **Germany**  
Pia-Lisa Schoell (female)  
Klaudius Harsch (male)  
Uli Kapp (coach)

**This was the 14th edition of this championship, with the inaugural event staged in Vierumaki, Finland in 2008.**

Previously in the season, the World Mixed Doubles Qualification event, scheduled to take place in Forfar, Scotland, had been cancelled due to travel complications caused by the pandemic. This meant that altogether 20 teams represented their national Member Associations at this championship. They were divided into two round-robin groups:

**Group A:** Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Italy, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

**Group B:** Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, England, Germany, Hungary, Scotland, Spain, Turkey and United States.

At the end of round-robin, Switzerland topped Group A to take the direct route to the semi-finals, as did Group B leaders, Scotland.

In the qualification games, Norway beat Canada, by 6-5, to face Switzerland in the semi-final. Meanwhile, Germany were 11-8 winners over Sweden to go onto the other semi-final. Scotland went on to defeat Germany, by 8-3, and Switzerland beat Norway, by 8-7 in the, other semi-final.

Germany came back onto the ice and defeated Norway, by 7-5, to win a first-ever World Mixed Doubles medal for their country.

Scotland beat hosts Switzerland, by 9-7, to take the gold medals, the world title and complete their 11-game winning streak.

Finland, Spain, Turkey, and New Zealand found themselves in the four lowest positions and will be relegated to next season's Qualification Event.









# World Senior Curling Championships 2022

Geneva, Switzerland: 23-30 April

## MEDALLISTS

### Women

- **Switzerland**  
Cristina Lestander (skip)  
Sandra Born (third)  
Silvia Gygax (second)  
Christina Gartenmann (lead)  
Karin Durtschi (alternate)  
Christian Bangerter (coach)
- **United States**  
Margie Smith (skip)  
Ann Swisshelm (third)  
Shelly Kasal (second)  
Shelley Dropkin (lead)
- **Scotland**  
Mairi Milne (fourth)  
Edith Hazard (skip and third)  
Wendy Johnston (second)  
Katie Loudon (lead)  
Jackie Lockhart (alternate)

### Men

- **Canada**  
Wade White (skip)  
Barry Chwedoruk (third)  
Dan Holowaychuk (second)  
George White (lead)
- **Czech Republic**  
David Sik (skip)  
Karel Hradec (third)  
David Havlena (second)  
Marek Brozek (lead)  
Jiri Chobot (alternate)
- **Sweden**  
Mats Wranaa (skip)  
Mikael Hasselborg (third)  
Anders Eriksson (second)  
Gerry Waahlin (lead)  
Per Noreen (alternate)  
Jordan Waahlin (coach)

**At the World Senior Curling Championships in Geneva, Switzerland, 13 women's and 21 men's teams contested the 2022 world titles.**

The women's teams were divided into two groups:

**Group A:** Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ireland, Italy, Scotland and Sweden.

**Group B:** England, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Switzerland and United States.

After round-robin play, Finland and Scotland topped the group ranking and moved directly to the semi-finals. Behind them, Switzerland defeated Ireland, by 8-5, in one qualification game, while United States beat Canada, by 4-3, in the other.

In the semi-finals, Switzerland won over Scotland, by 7-6 and United States beat Finland, by 8-4. Scotland went on to win the bronze medals against Finland, by 6-4, while Switzerland beat United States, by 6-5, in the final for the gold medals.

The 21 men's teams played their round-robin in three groups:

**Group A:** Australia, Canada, Finland, Italy, Slovakia, Turkey and United States.

**Group B:** Czech Republic, England, Hungary, Ireland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

**Group C:** Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Latvia, New Zealand, Nigeria and Scotland.

Of these teams, Nigeria made their first appearance at the world senior championship.

In the quarter-finals, Sweden beat Italy, by 9-2, Czech Republic topped Scotland, by 7-5, Germany were 6-5 winners over United States and Canada defeated Switzerland, by 12-4. Following these results, Czech Republic won 8-6 over Sweden in one semi-final, while Canada beat Germany, by 11-5, in the other.

Sweden went on to take home bronze against Germany, with a 7-3 win, while Canada beat Czech Republic, by 6-3, in the final to win gold.





# World Wheelchair Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2022

Lohja, Finland: 30 April - 5 May

## MEDALLISTS

- Sweden  
Sabina Johansson (female)  
Marcus Holm (male)  
Peter Narup (coach)
- Hungary  
Sari Rita (female)  
Beke Viktor (male)  
Rozgonyi Gergel (coach)
- Norway  
Rikke Iversen (female)  
Rune Lorentsen (male)  
Peter Dahlman (coach)

## Key facts:



Sweden win inaugural **World Wheelchair Mixed Doubles** title

**The World Wheelchair Mixed Doubles Curling Championship made its debut on the international stage this season, in Lohja, Finland, with 18 teams taking part.**

This was a vital step towards Wheelchair Mixed Doubles being included in future Paralympic Winter Games.

The teams were divided into two round-robin groups with the top three teams in each group qualifying for the play-off stage. The teams were:

**Group A:** Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Korea, Scotland, Sweden and Switzerland.

**Group B:** Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Latvia, Norway, Slovakia, Turkey and United States.

Group winners Hungary and Norway progressed directly to the semi-finals, while, in qualification games, Italy beat Latvia, by 11-6, and Sweden were 12-3 winners over United States.



In the semi-finals, Hungary defeated Italy, by 6-5, while Sweden beat Norway, by 8-4.

In the bronze game between Norway and Italy, the Norwegians scored five points in the sixth end to increase their lead to 11-5, on the way to a 12-5 win.

The gold medal final saw Hungary take a 3-2 lead into the fourth-end break. But in the eighth end, Sweden used their power play secure a 7-5 victory, claim gold, and the first ever World Wheelchair Mixed Doubles title.





# World Junior Curling Championships 2022

Jonkoping, Sweden: 15-22 May

## MEDALLISTS

### Women

● **Japan**  
Miyu Ueno (fourth)  
Eri Ogihara (third)  
Yui Ueno (second)  
Sae Yamamoto (first and skip)  
Miura Yuina (alternate)  
Ayumi Ogasawara (coach)

● **Sweden**  
Moa Dryburgh (skip)  
Thea Orefjord (third)  
Moa Tjaerlund (second)  
Moa Nilsson (lead)  
Linda Stenlund (alternate)  
Margaretha Dryburgh (coach)

● **United States**  
Delaney Strouse (skip)  
Anne O'Hara (third)  
Sydney Mullaney (second)  
Susan Dudt (lead)  
Kaitlin Murphy (alternate)  
Amy Harnden (coach)

### Men

● **Scotland**  
James Craik (skip)  
Angus Bryce (third)  
Scott Hyslop (second)  
Niall Ryder (lead)  
Jack Carrick (alternate)  
Iain Watt (coach)

● **Germany**  
Benjamin Kapp (skip)  
Felix Messenzehl (third)  
Johannes Scheuerl (second)  
Magnus Sutor (lead)  
Klaudius Harsch (alternate)  
Andy Kapp (coach)

● **Canada**  
Owen Purcell (skip)  
Joel Krats (third)  
Adam McEachren (second)  
Scott Weagle (lead)  
Scott Mitchell (alternate)  
Anthony Purcell (coach)

Prior to these world championships – which were re-scheduled due to COVID difficulties – the World Junior-B Curling Championships taking place in Lohja, Finland were cancelled following a number of positive COVID-19 cases at the event.

Because of the delay, the World Junior Curling Championships became the last event of the 2021-2022 season. It was the 50th edition of the championship on the men's side, and the 34th edition for the women.

Ten men's and ten women's teams represented their national Member Associations.

Women: Canada, Denmark, Japan, Korea, Latvia, Norway, Scotland, Sweden, Switzerland and United States.

Men: Canada, Germany, Italy, Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Scotland, Sweden, Switzerland and United States.

In the women's event, after round-robin play, Sweden beat Norway, by 5-4, in one semi-final while Japan were 7-3 winners over United States in the other. United States then beat Norway, by 10-6, to take bronze medals while Japan took an historic first-ever world title when they beat Sweden, by 7-4, in the gold medal game.

In the men's championship, the semi-finals saw table-toppers Scotland beat Norway, by 7-5, while Germany defeated Canada, by 8-5.

The Canadians went on to take bronze medals with a 13-4 victory over Norway, while Scotland took the world title with a 7-1 win over Germany.

During the closing ceremony, Sportsmanship Awards – for the players voted on by the others as best exemplifying the spirit of curling – were awarded to Norway women's skip, Eirin Mesloe, and New Zealand men's second player Darcy Nevill.





# Broadcast and Media Report

The challenges of covering events for the Broadcast and Media teams continued throughout this season due to both the number of events and the ongoing complications caused by the pandemic.

Despite the challenges, curling's coverage and popularity received significant growth, helped by the visibility produced by the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

The three world championships that feature the Olympic disciplines – women, men and mixed doubles – saw a cumulative television viewership of over 109 million viewers and was available in more than 50 countries worldwide.



## Key facts:

WCF Social channel reach

**91%**  
increase

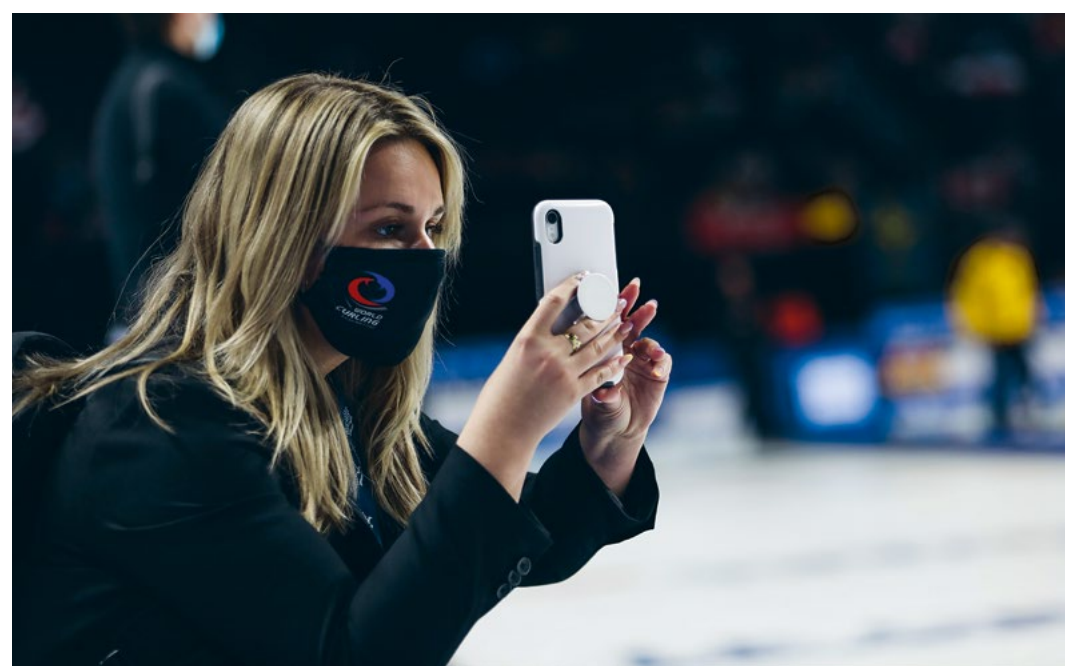
The Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games saw curling reach 98 million viewers in over 100 countries, with 781 million hours of curling coverage viewed, which is a 37% increase from PyeongChang 2018 coverage.

The World Curling Federation also formed a partnership with streaming platform Recast, launching The Curling Channel in November 2021. The platform replaced the Federation's YouTube channel for live streaming content, allowing the Federation to monetise the streaming of championships and saw the channel grow to over 20,000 followers in its first season.

A key media strategy for the Federation during the Olympic cycle was to grow the popularity and visibility of our sport and coverage within China. That strategy was achieved using the Federation's Sina Weibo account. It continued its steady growth and now has over 300,000 followers, remaining the Federation's most followed channel.

In the rest of the world, the reach of the Federation's own digital channels increased over 91% with a significant increase in engagement on all platforms. These channels saw a combined new follower growth of almost 20% increasing the reach of the Federation's channels to almost a quarter of a million people.

The Federation also published a book "Granite and Gold", which documents the history of curling's Olympic and Paralympic journey. The book has a limited print run and copies were provided to each World Curling Federation Member Association.



## Key facts:

recast

Federation launch The Curling Channel on Recast and reach

**21,000**  
followers in first year

# Private Banking

**Key facts:**

Sina Weibo account reaches

**309,000**  
followers

The 2021-2022 season saw something of a return to normalcy for the World Curling Federation's sponsors.

While, in many cases, on-site activity was restricted, the Federation's ability to deliver and provide coverage from events, meant that all contracts were fulfilled.

Once again, the Le Gruyère AOP European Curling Championships 2021 and the LGT World Men's Curling Championship 2022 were sell out events with our marketing agents Infront. Curling Canada also sold out all available inventory at the BKT Tires & OK Tire World Women's Curling Championship 2022 in Prince George. This has helped bring income back towards the pre-pandemic levels and, with the new Pan Continental Curling Championships starting in the coming season, it is hoped that there will be new opportunities for increasing the levels of income for the Federation through sponsorship.



**The final year of an Olympic Cycle is one in which the World Curling Federation normally budgets for a deficit, with significant additional expenditure for the qualification process and the costs associated with the Games (both Olympic and Paralympic) themselves.**

**For last season, the Board had budgeted with the expectation of a deficit of just over \$USD 1 million. Due to a variety of factors, the season was completed with a deficit of just under half that amount.**

Whilst the season ran more in line with a pre-COVID-19 season, there were additional costs caused by the ongoing pandemic. These costs are detailed in "Other expenses" and amounted to over \$USD 250,000, bringing the total costs of COVID-19 mitigations to around \$USD 1 million over the last two seasons.

Of the other exceptional items in the past season, the four yearly revaluation of our office property saw the valuation drop by some \$USD 86,000 – due to a combination of exchange rate variations and a stagnant office property market as the impact in the growth of home and hybrid working made its way into office property valuations. There is also an adjustment for foreign exchange losses.

The Federation continued to benefit from successful investment policies, making a gain on our investments as they were sold of around \$USD 500,000. We received a windfall share of profit from the successful World Women's Curling Championship in Prince George as part of our agreement with Curling Canada and the continuing growth of our TV Sales helped to offset the additional costs of broadcast delivery.

On the expenditure side the impact of COVID-19 continued to influence our costs, for example as we once again held a virtual congress in 2021 there were significant savings under the costs for our Board and Governance.

Our operational costs were impacted by the fluctuating exchange rates with the weakening GBP reducing the costs of the salaries against the budget.

In development, costs ran as expected with the exception of the cancellation of the Summer Camp programme in July 2021 due to the challenges of the pandemic.

Our competition programme saw several significant fluctuations with several cancellations due to COVID-19 in the late Autumn, early Winter period and increased costs – particularly relating to flights – in the second half of the season. This will continue to be a challenge for the next couple of seasons.

Under Finance, there continues to be significant ongoing legal costs associated with the decision to exclude the Polish Curling Association from the World Curling Federation. It is hoped that this will come to a resolution over the coming months.

Broadcasting expenditure is higher with a significant investment being made for the coverage of the Olympic Qualification Events. This investment did yield additional income, although there was a net cost to the Federation in the region of \$USD 100,000 above the budgeted figures.

Committee expenses were under budget with few face-to-face meetings held during the season. Finally, the costs the Federation incurred associated with the Olympic and Paralympic Games were lower than expected, caused by limitations on who was allowed to travel to Beijing and no insurance being available to cover the Olympic participation this time.

On the balance sheet, several loans made to facilities have been restructured to assist with the challenges of the pandemic. With the loss from the past season the reserves drop slightly leaving the Federation with reserves that could support 14-15 months operations at full capacity with no income.



## INCOME & EXPENDITURE

for the year ended 30 June 2022

	2022 \$USD	2021 \$USD
<b>INCOME</b>		
Membership subscriptions	40,450	39,850
IOC Monies	5,407,522	5,277,655
Marketing fees	1,166,633	636,614
Bank interest	2,706	850
Dividend income	67,550	117,107
Realised profits on investments	456,967	1,069,131
Rights fees	115,665	-
Programs and services clinics	15,913	45,244
Miscellaneous income	286,248	66,204
Broadcasting	1,195,782	820,234
	<b>8,755,436</b>	<b>8,072,889</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Board expenses and congress	236,561	80,066
Standing / ad hoc committee expenses	12,562	-
Operations	1,849,210	1,620,464
Programs and services - development	470,033	397,544
Programs and services - facilities and technical	5,678	1,161
Programs and services - other	78,773	66,840
Competitions	985,140	190,814
World Cup	-	-
Finance	103,810	21,344
International and corporate relations	366	(1,251)
Media expenses	464,181	343,644
Administrative expenses	(42,870)	61,225
Marketing	776,113	591,180
Broadcasting	3,576,766	1,908,940
Bad debts	8,583	-
Olympic Games	257,173	681
World Anti-Doping Agency	83,424	61,722
Loss on foreign exchange transactions	33,732	6,419
COVID costs	268,534	723,180
	<b>9,167,769</b>	<b>6,073,973</b>
Ordinary (Deficit) / Surplus for the Year	<b>(412,333)</b>	1,998,916
Exceptional Item	86,156	-
(Deficit) / Surplus for the Year	<b>(498,489)</b>	1,998,916
Reserves Brought Forward	11,227,596	9,228,680
Reserves Carried Forward	<b>10,729,107</b>	<b>11,227,596</b>

## BALANCE SHEET

as at 30 June 2022

	2022 \$USD	2021 \$USD
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Tangible fixed assets	1,351,445	1,538,371
Investments	7,129,451	10,445,761
	<b>8,480,896</b>	<b>11,984,132</b>
<b>OTHER ASSETS</b>		
Stock	294,783	295,350
Debtors and prepayments - due after 1 year	1,424,972	1,765,054
	<b>1,719,755</b>	<b>2,060,404</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Debtors and prepayments - due within 1 year	1,668,836	2,429,700
Cash and cash equivalents	13,157,682	1,249,049
	<b>14,826,518</b>	<b>3,678,749</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Creditors and accruals	6,298,062	6,495,689
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)</b>	<b>8,528,456</b>	<b>(2,816,940)</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>18,729,107</b>	<b>11,227,596</b>
<b>LONG TERM LIABILITIES</b>	<b>8,000,000</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>10,729,107</b>	<b>11,227,596</b>
Represented by:		
<b>Retained reserves</b>	<b>10,729,107</b>	<b>11,227,596</b>

All figures subject to final audit approval.

# World Rankings

These tables represent the most recent Member Associations World Rankings.

These rankings take into account performances in the various championship events of the season. Further information on how these rankings are calculated can be found on the World Curling Federation website.

These rankings include all disciplines represented by championships this season. However, as no World Mixed Curling Championship took place for the second season running, there have been no changes in that ranking table.

## Wheelchair

Member Association	Points	+/-
1 China	88.937	0
2 Sweden	58.793	6
3 Canada	58.046	1
4 Norway	50.766	-2
5 Russia	49.425	-2
6 Korea	46.983	-1
7 Scotland/Great Britain	43.103	-1
8 Slovakia	37.117	1
9 United States of America	34.435	2
10 Switzerland	29.215	-3
11 Estonia	28.209	3
12 Latvia	18.487	0
13 Germany	16.188	-3
14 Finland	12.356	-1
15 Italy	10.431	2
16 Czech Republic	8.918	-1
17 Turkey	6.772	3
18 Japan	5.747	4
19 Slovenia	4.353	-1
20 Hungary	3.975	4
21 Denmark	3.908	-2
22 England	3.879	-6
23 Lithuania	3.420	0

## Women's

Member Association	Points	+/-
1 Switzerland	75.540	1
2 Sweden	75.045	-1
3 Korea	61.061	0
4 Canada	56.138	1
5 Japan	54.568	2
6 Scotland/Great Britain	50.495	2
7 United States of America	50.090	-1
8 Russia	38.489	-4
9 Denmark	35.274	1
10 China	31.879	-1
11 Germany	18.885	0
12 Czech Republic	14.951	0
13 Norway	13.705	4
14 Italy	13.408	-1
15 Turkey	10.746	3
16 Latvia	9.362	-2
17 Estonia	9.150	-1
18 Hong Kong	8.058	1
19 Hungary	7.626	1
20 Finland	7.455	-5
21 England	6.844	0
22 Lithuania	5.926	0
23 Kazakhstan	5.769	5
24 Spain	5.252	-1
25 Slovakia	5.234	-1

## Men

Member Association	Points	+/-
1 Sweden	97.122	0
2 Canada	70.706	1
3 Scotland/Great Britain	63.309	2
4 United States of America	62.433	0
5 Switzerland	57.284	-3
6 Italy	44.514	2
7 Norway	37.455	0
8 Russia	28.822	2
9 Korea	26.754	0
10 Japan	25.719	-4
11 Denmark	22.176	1
12 Germany	20.369	-1
13 China	19.042	1
14 Netherlands	14.951	-1
15 Czech Republic	12.635	1
16 Finland	11.277	-1
17 England	7.770	0
18 Spain	7.770	3
19 Turkey	7.455	4
20 Latvia	7.356	0
21 Austria	6.763	-2
22 Chinese Taipei	6.106	0
23 Estonia	5.791	4
24 Wales	5.692	4
25 Belarus	5.261	0

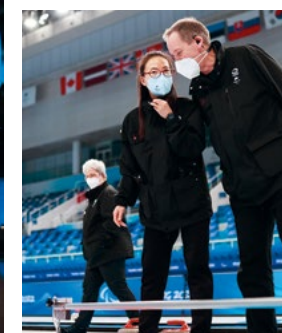
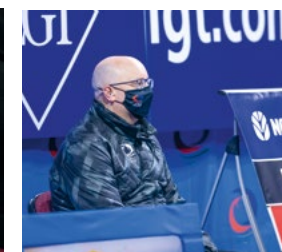
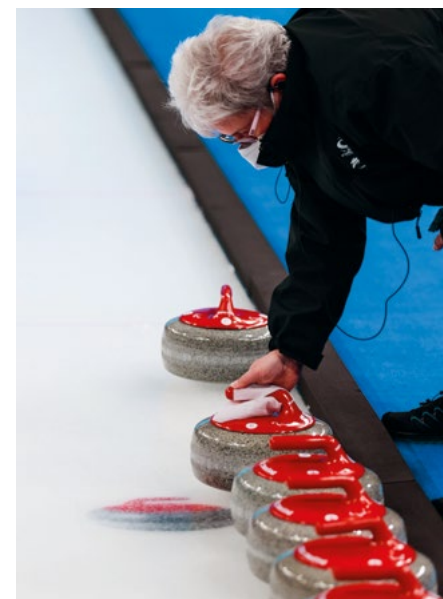
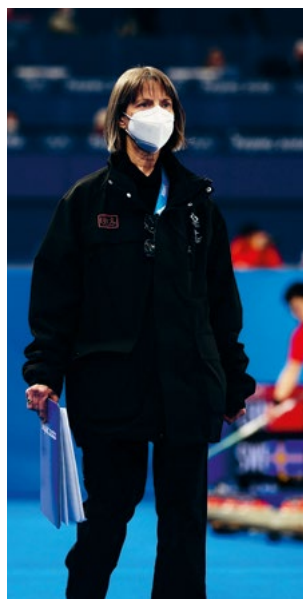
# Event calendar 2022–2023 Season

## Mixed Doubles

Member Association	Points	+/-
<b>1</b> Canada	66.987	0
<b>2</b> Norway	64.341	1
<b>3</b> Switzerland	61.616	-1
<b>4</b> Scotland/Great Britain	58.297	3
<b>5</b> Sweden	56.593	-1
<b>6</b> Italy	42.935	7
<b>7</b> United States of America	41.969	-2
<b>8</b> Czech Republic	29.304	2
<b>9</b> China	26.813	-3
<b>10</b> Australia	23.993	4
<b>11</b> Germany	23.214	7
<b>12</b> Korea	21.154	-4
<b>13</b> Japan	19.826	-1
<b>14</b> Russia	17.216	-5
<b>15</b> Finland	16.543	-4
<b>16</b> Hungary	16.081	-1
<b>17</b> Estonia	12.665	-1
<b>18</b> Turkey	9.886	-1
<b>19</b> England	9.038	0
<b>20</b> New Zealand	8.292	1
<b>21</b> Denmark	8.457	2
<b>22</b> Spain	8.439	-2
<b>23</b> Latvia	3.375	-1
<b>24</b> France	3.375	2
<b>25</b> Austria	3.365	0

Event	Location	Start	End
<b>World Curling Congress</b>	Lausanne, Switzerland	8 September 2022	11 September 2022
<b>World Mixed Curling Championship 2022</b>	Aberdeen, Scotland	15 October 2022	22 October 2022
<b>Pan Continental Curling Championships 2022</b>	Calgary, Canada	31 October 2022	6 November 2022
<b>World Wheelchair-B Curling Championship 2022</b>	Lohja, Finland	3 November 2022	10 November 2022
<b>Le Gruyère AOP European Curling Championships 2022</b>	Oestersund, Sweden	19 November 2022	26 November 2022
<b>World Mixed Doubles Qualification Event 2022</b>	Dumfries, Scotland	3 December 2022	7 December 2022
<b>World Junior-B Curling Championships 2022</b>	Lohja, Finland	8 December 2022	19 December 2022
<b>World University Games 2023</b>	Lake Placid, United States	12 January 2023	22 January 2023
<b>World Junior Curling Championships 2023</b>	Fuessen, Germany	25 February 2023	4 March 2023
<b>World Wheelchair Curling Championship 2023</b>	TBC	4 March 2023	11 March 2023
<b>World Wheelchair Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2023</b>	TBC	12 March 2023	18 March 2023
<b>LGT World Women's Curling Championship 2023</b>	Sandviken, Sweden	18 March 2023	26 March 2023
<b>World Men's Curling Championship 2023</b>	Ottawa, Canada	1 April 2023	9 April 2023
<b>World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship 2023</b>	Gangneung, Korea	22 April 2023	29 April 2023
<b>World Senior Curling Championships 2023</b>	Gangneung, Korea	22 April 2023	29 April 2023
<b>European Curling Championships 2023 C-Division</b>	Dumfries, Scotland	29 April 2023	6 May 2023

# Thank you to the officials



Alexandr Orlov  
 Alistair Martin  
 Anatolii Belov  
 Andy Lessard  
 Angela Tonis  
 Anja Huckler  
 Anton Porotikov  
 Asmus Joergensen  
 Bartosz Dzikowski  
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 Valery Kogan  
 Vonda Hofferd  
 Wang Jue  
 Wojciech Augustyniak  
 Yu Liang  
 Yusuf Dumlu

## Kate Caithness's term as President of the World Curling Federation ends at the 2022 Annual World Curling Congress.



She was elected President of the World Curling Federation in April 2010, to become the first female President of the Federation and the first female President of an Olympic Winter Sports Federation.

Since then, her tireless work and enthusiasm have served the sport enormously. The pictures and notes on this page provide only a glimpse of all that she has done and achieved within our sport and as an external ambassador and representative for curling in the wider sports world.

### World Curling Federation career:

- **2006** joined World Curling Federation Board as Vice-President
- **2010** elected President
- **2012** re-elected President, unopposed
- **2018** re-elected President, unopposed

### Appointments:

- **2013** Appointed OBE (Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire)
- **2016** Appointed as Honorary Professor of Beijing Sports University in 2016 and Dean of the University's curling college
- **2019** Appointed CBE (Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire)
- **2021** Recipient of the International Paralympic Committee 2021 International Women's Day Recognition Award

### Olympic and Paralympic Appointments:

- **2005** Elected to the International Paralympic Committee's five Sports Council Management Committee
- **2006** Served on the Paralympic Games Committee
- **2011** Appointed to the Olympic Programme Commission
- **2016** Elected to the International Olympic Committee's Coordination Committee for the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022
- **2021** Appointed to the Gangwon 2024 Winter Youth Olympic Games Coordination Commission

### External Activities:

- **2016** Elected to newly-formed council of the Global Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF), serving as a Board member
- **2014** Became board member for the International Masters Games Association
- **2020** Became a member of the Advisory Council and board member of the World Academy of Sport
- **2022** Selected as acting Vice-President for the International Masters Games Association



# Sponsors

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Umit Uzun  
Ansis Ventins  
Keith Wendorf

FSC  
CREDIT



*It was not just ice and snow at the Opening Ceremony of the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games, with this representation of nature also playing a part.*



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